Initiative for Community Advancement

Community Foundations in Africa: A Landscape Analysis

2025 REPORT

Commissioned by the Initiative for Community Advancement (ICA)
Research conducted by Shelly Satuku, independent researcher, on behalf of ICA

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ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report presents the first comprehensive primary-data survey of the community foundations movement across seven African countries, capturing the perspectives of nine Community Foundation Support Organisations (CFSOs) operating in Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

– Ubuntu in Southern Africa, Harambee in East Africa, Ujamaa in Tanzania, and Titritob in Ghana –

Foreword

The community foundations movement in Africa represents one of the most promising developments in philanthropy on the continent. Rooted in indigenous traditions of mutual aid and collective responsibility — Ubuntu in Southern Africa, Harambee in East Africa, Ujamaa in Tanzania, and Titritob in Ghana — these institutions are pioneering new pathways for locally-led development.

This report emerges from a structured survey of Community Foundation Support Organisations (CFSOs) across seven African countries, capturing the voices and experiences of those building this movement from the ground up. What emerges is a portrait of remarkable diversity, resilience, and innovation, alongside significant challenges that require urgent attention. From Kenya's nearly 30-year-old movement to Ghana's rapid expansion from zero to 23 Community Foundations (CFs) at various stages of development in just four years, from Uganda's systematic mapping of community philanthropy organisations (identifying potential CF candidates through an incubation process) to South Africa's hard-won lessons from decades of trial and error, each country's journey offers unique insights for the broader movement.

This report serves multiple purposes. For practitioners, it provides a mirror to see themselves within a continental movement. For funders and policymakers, it offers evidence of what works, what doesn't, and what investments are needed. For researchers, it documents an evolving field at a critical juncture.

We are grateful to all the CFSOs who participated in this research, sharing not only data but their hopes, frustrations, and hard-won wisdom. Their commitment to building sustainable, community-owned institutions is transforming the landscape of African philanthropy.

Acknowledgements

This report would not have been possible without the generous participation of Community Foundation Support Organisations across Africa who took time to complete the comprehensive survey and share their experiences, insights, and data.

We acknowledge the pioneering work of community foundations themselves — the grassroots leaders, board members, volunteers, and staff who are building these institutions day by day, often with limited resources but unlimited commitment.

We recognise the international foundations and networks, particularly the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and the Ford Foundation, whose patient capital and long-term vision have made the growth of this movement possible. We are especially grateful to the Ford Foundation, whose generous funding made this research possible.

Ford Foundation

Executive Summary

This report presents the first comprehensive pan-African landscape analysis of the Community Foundations (CF) movement, based on primary survey data from Community Foundation Support Organisations (CFSOs) across seven countries: Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Key Findings

Across the seven surveyed countries, this research identified approximately 102 organisations that meet or are on a trajectory toward meeting formal Community Foundation criteria. This figure includes a mix of Established Community Foundations, Emerging Community Foundations, and Community Foundation Initiative Groups, and should not be interpreted as 102 mature or fully institutionalised Community Foundations. The growth of the CF movement since 2020 is substantially attributed to the intentional investment of the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and other funders in equipping CFSOs to expand the movement.

The movement embodies African philosophies of solidarity and mutual aid — Ubuntu (Southern Africa), Harambee (Kenya), Ujamaa (East Africa), and Titritob (Ghana). While CFs exist to address broader societal issues, primary thematic areas include education, health, water and sanitation, and economic empowerment. Most CFs rely heavily on volunteers, with paid staff as few as three in smaller organisations.

CFSOs have identified critical capacity gaps in fundraising, financial and investment expertise, and governance — all of which affect endowment building and operational sustainability. Endowment building, while present in Kenya, South Africa, Ghana, Uganda, and Zimbabwe, is not yet widely implemented across the continent.

The most significant challenges identified are donor dependency, unpredictable revenues, and the absence of dedicated legal frameworks for community foundations. South Africa's experience — where nine of the original ten community foundations collapsed — stands as a cautionary case study in the risks of donor-driven establishment without community ownership.

Regional Patterns

Kenya demonstrates the most mature ecosystem in East Africa, with established networks, nearly three decades of institutional memory, and systematic capacity building through the Kenya Community Development Foundation (KCDF). Uganda's CivSource Africa has been working to identify and incubate potential community foundations, with three newly registered CFs emerging from the incubation programme. Ghana in West Africa shows the most explosive recent growth, with 23 incorporated foundations established since 2021 through strong technical support and active engagement of traditional authorities. Southern Africa presents a mixed picture: South Africa's high historical failure rate offers critical lessons for the broader movement, while Zimbabwe has both established CFs and emerging ones, Zambia, and Malawi show emerging movements at varying stages of development.

Introduction

Community foundations represent one of the most tangible expressions of localised giving, offering a structured mechanism for communities to pool and deploy resources for their own benefit. This philanthropic model has experienced remarkable growth globally, particularly in North America and Europe, over the past century. In recent years, the community foundations movement has gained significant traction across Africa, where it intersects meaningfully with deep-rooted traditions of mutual aid and collective responsibility.

At their core, community foundations are institutions of the community and for the community. Their governance structures draw from local representatives, and their mandate centres on mobilising both financial and non-financial resources to address locally identified priorities. What makes the African experience distinctive is that community foundations incorporate formalised expressions of indigenous practices that have held African societies together for generations. The philosophical underpinnings are authentically African: Ubuntu in Southern Africa articulates the interconnectedness of humanity through the principle “I am because you are”; Harambee in Kenya provides a practical framework for collective resource mobilisation, meaning “pulling together”; Ujamaa in many parts of East Africa emphasises collective ownership; and Titritob in Ghana emphasises solidarity for community development. These are not borrowed concepts but living traditions that continue to shape how African communities organise themselves around shared challenges.

The term “philanthropy” itself remains uncommon in everyday African discourse, yet the practice it describes has a longer and richer history on the continent than is widely acknowledged. African philanthropy extends far beyond financial giving to encompass the contribution of time, skills, labour, and other non-monetary assets in service of others. It is characterised by mutual aid and reciprocity, manifesting daily in practices that communities may not term “philanthropy”, but which embody its essence.

What distinguishes community philanthropy from traditional development aid is its fundamental orientation toward collective agency rather than dependency. The Global Fund for Community Foundations (GFCF) defines this approach as the “mobilisation and pooling of local resources — money, goods, assets, and community values — for community-driven development.” An important lesson from South Africa’s experience of community foundations is that the starting point for a sustainable CF should not be an externally provided endowment. Rather, a sustainable foundation begins with deep recognition that local assets — social capital, local knowledge, and collective capacity — already exist and can be mobilised.

A 2018 study by the GFCF identified over 200 community foundations and community philanthropy organisations across at least 25 African countries. This report narrows the lens to provide a more granular, primary data of seven countries where structured Community Foundation Support Organisation (CFSO)-led movements have developed most substantially: Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The seven countries reveal diverse origins rooted in both local agency and external influence, with catalysts for community foundation development varying significantly by context and reflecting each country’s unique development challenges and philanthropic traditions.

Methodology

Research Design and Approach

This report is based on a mixed-methods landscape analysis combining a structured online survey with a desktop review of available documentation. A landscape analysis is a systematic mapping of an ecosystem — its actors, structures, relationships, strengths, and gaps — intended to provide a baseline understanding of a field rather than to test causal hypotheses. As such, this study is descriptive and exploratory rather than explanatory or evaluative. The research was conducted by independent researcher Shelly Satuku on behalf of the Initiative for Community Advancement (ICA). Data collection took place in November 2025.

Survey Instrument, Sampling and Scope

The primary data source is a structured, self-administered online survey completed by representatives of Community Foundation Support Organisations (CFSOs) in the seven focus countries. The survey captured: the number and CF development-stage of community foundations in each country; the historical trajectory of the CF movement; key thematic areas, funding sources, and endowment development; identified capacity gaps and systemic challenges; and the roles and functions of each CFSO.

Nine CFSOs from seven countries participated. In Kenya and Ghana, where more than one CFSO operates, both organisations completed separate survey instruments, enabling triangulation of data within those country contexts. The seven focus countries were selected on the basis that each has at least one active CFSO that has formally documented the growth of community foundations within its national context. Countries with community philanthropy activity but no active, documented CFSO were outside the scope of this study. The CF numbers in the seven countries are based on the CFSO's mapping studies and efforts to build the movement in the respective countries. Where survey responses are reported as percentages, these are calculated against the total of nine CFSO respondents (n=9).

Limitations and Positionality

Key Limitations

1. Single-informant design: Data drawn entirely from CFSO representatives who have an inherent interest in portraying the movement's growth positively. Findings should be read as expert practitioner perspectives rather than independently validated data.
2. Self-reported data: All CF counts, capacity assessments, and impact figures are self-reported by CFSOs. No independent audit or verification was conducted.
3. Geographic scope: The study covers seven countries selected for data availability. Findings may not be generalisable beyond the focus countries.
4. Snapshot in time: Data reflects the state of the movement as reported in November 2025. Given rapid growth, particularly in Ghana, Uganda, and Malawi, figures may have changed.
5. Community voice: This study does not capture the perspectives of community foundation beneficiaries or local community members.

This report was commissioned by the Initiative for Community Advancement (ICA), an organisation that is itself an established community foundation within the South African movement. This research was made possible through funding from the Ford Foundation. The independent researcher undertook this study with a commitment to objectivity, including the transparent reporting of challenges, failures, and limitations alongside achievements.

Community Philanthropy and the Community Foundations movement in Africa

The community foundations movement, while having originated in the United States with the establishment of the Cleveland Community Foundation in 1914, has spread across the globe, with Africa increasingly embracing the model. The rise of community foundations represents a paradigm shift toward a development approach that, if fully supported, holds potential to drive systemic change more effectively than traditional development aid and conventional Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) models. In Africa, the growth of the CF movement is largely attributed to the realisation of the model's potential, which has led local NGOs and Community-Based Organisations to adopt the CF model to advance development. However, it is worth noting that establishing a CF takes time and resources. It often requires consultations, incubation, seed funding, governance design, and early staffing before grants are ever made.

Before examining the movement in detail, it is essential to distinguish between Community Philanthropy (CP) as a practice and Community Foundations (CFs) as institutional forms. Community philanthropy in Africa is the practice of giving and resource mobilisation for the well-being of the people, rooted in local agency and indigenous traditions. Community Foundations, by contrast, are formal institutional structures that employ community philanthropy strategies alongside other resource mobilisation approaches to provide grants toward community-identified development priorities. Many organisations practise community philanthropy but are not necessarily community foundations.

Definition: Community Foundation

Locally rooted, not-for-profit, public philanthropy institutions that pool charitable contributions into a shared endowment are governed by a broadly representative local board and use their resources to make grants and support community development in a defined geographical area, with a view to long-term sustainability and local ownership.

Characteristics of Community Foundations

For the purposes of this report, a Community Foundation is an institution that demonstrates the following characteristics:

- A defined geographic or place-based focus
- A permanent endowment or an explicit strategy toward building one
- Democratic governance structures representing the community
- Grant-making capacity driven by community priorities
- Multiple funding streams combining local and external resources
- A long-term institutional sustainability orientation
- A formal legal or organisational structure

Organisations that meet these criteria, or are on an explicit trajectory toward meeting them, are classified as Community Foundations in this report.

Classification Framework: Understanding Organisational Development Stages

This report employs a three-tier classification framework that distinguishes between different organisational development stages. Rather than applying a binary definition that would exclude organisations still building their capacity, this approach acknowledges the dynamic nature of institutional development and ensures that reporting reflects authentic institutional maturity rather than conflating aspirational initiatives with established organisations.

ESTABLISHED COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

Organisations that demonstrate all seven defining characteristics. Typically, operational for a decade or more, with institutional maturity across multiple dimensions: permanent or near-permanent endowments, consistent grant-making, democratic governance, and long-term financial sustainability. Examples include KCDF (est. 1997), Community Foundation for the Western Region of Zimbabwe (est. 1998), Uthungulu Community Foundation (est. 1999), and Uluntu Community Foundation (est. 2008).

EMERGING COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

Recently registered or transitioned organisations actively building institutional capacity and working toward full CF status. They have established formal legal structures and geographic focus areas, and demonstrate commitment to the CF model and functions, but may still be developing endowment strategies, refining governance, or building grant-making systems.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION INITIATIVE GROUPS

Organisations or collectives learning the CF model but not yet fully operational as CFs. These groups may be in feasibility studies, community consultations, or early-stage planning. They represent potential future CFs and indicate grassroots interest in the model.

This three-tier classification clarifies where different organisations sit on the CF development trajectory, enabling accurate assessment of the movement's depth and breadth. It ensures that reporting reflects authentic institutional development and provides a useful framework for identifying where capacity-building support and resources might be most strategically deployed.

The chronology of the community foundations movement in Africa

This study identified 102 organisations that fall under the CF category, contributing to the growth of the CF movement. The movement in Africa has evolved through distinct phases, each characterised by different drivers, challenges, and achievements. Understanding this chronology provides essential context for assessing the movement's current state and identifying patterns that may inform its future trajectory.

The Pioneer Era: First Wave (1997–1999)

The formal community foundations movement in Africa emerged in the late 1990s with near-simultaneous developments in East and Southern Africa. This pioneering phase was characterised by experimentation, with foundations drawing on both indigenous traditions of collective action and international models.

Kenya established the continent's first formally recognised community foundation, the Kenya

Community Development Foundation (KCDF), in Nairobi in 1997. KCDF emerged from a group of professionals concerned about prevailing trends in community development that failed to build on indigenous knowledge and local energy. The foundation was explicitly inspired by Kenya's harambee spirit. Critical early support came from the Aga Khan Foundation, which served as KCDF's fiscal host, and the Ford Foundation, which provided seed funding and technical guidance that shaped the organisation's endowment-building model.

Zimbabwe followed with the launch of the Community Foundation for the Western Region of Zimbabwe (CFWRZ) in March 1998. CFWRZ was established on the foundation of "Qogelela," a Ndebele term meaning "collective saving," in which communities contributed as little as one US dollar each to create a common fund. The CF's original funders were the communities themselves, the Carnegie Corporation, the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa, and the United Nations Development Programme, among others. This organic emergence from indigenous savings practices distinguished Zimbabwe's pioneering foundation from externally conceived models.

South Africa experienced a different trajectory. Approximately ten community foundations were initially established, largely donor-led initiatives inspired by desires to replicate models from the United States and Europe. Only one — Uthungulu Community Foundation (est. 1999) — survived beyond the initial years, highlighting the risks of transplanting external models without sufficient grounding in the local context and community ownership.

The Second Wave: Early Consolidation (2000–2009)

The decade following the pioneer era saw limited new foundation establishment but important groundwork for future expansion. Uganda's Women's Rights Initiative (WORI) was founded in 2007, an organisation that would later be recognised as one of Uganda's oldest community foundations through CivSource Africa's 2021 CF mapping. This period marked a phase of discovery and consolidation as the movement drew on lessons from pioneering experiences.

The Transformation Decade (2010–2019)

The 2010s brought significant structural developments. Kenya experienced a constitutional turning point with the adoption of the 2010 Constitution, whose emphasis on devolution and citizen participation created an enabling environment for grassroots philanthropy. South Africa witnessed the emergence of a second generation of community foundations during the mid-2010s. However, four of these subsequently closed due to inadequate fundraising capacity, unconvincing value propositions, and difficulties raising funds specifically for grant-making purposes. Malawi saw the emergence of Makanjira Development Foundation in 2019, which would become the country's pioneering CF..

The Expansion Era: Rapid Multi-Country Growth (2020–Present)

The early 2020s ushered in an unprecedented period of growth, characterised by multi-country expansion, professionalisation of support structures, and the formation of national networks.

2021: Catalytic Developments
Ghana formally introduced the CF model in April 2021 through PureTrust Foundation LBG, supported by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation. The Mafi-Kpedzeglo Community Foundation was established in the Volta Region as the country's first CF. Uganda began formalising its structured CF model when CivSource Africa launched its incubation process with grassroots organisations and local leaders in Kampala and Wakiso.

2022: Research and Grounding
Zimbabwe advanced through systematic research when SIVIO Institute conducted a comprehensive mapping study, informing the design of capacity-building programmes to strengthen the community foundation movement. Ghana experienced continued expansion with new foundations emerging in the Central, Northern, Ashanti, and Eastern regions.

2023: New Entries
Malawi entered the movement with remarkable speed. While the country had one recognised CF — Makanjira Development Foundation — 2023 witnessed the emergence of CFs across eight districts. Mudzi Connect played a transformative intermediary role, facilitating the formation of ten new foundations through technical expertise and training.

2024: Network Building and Movement Advancement
Zimbabwe formed a national CF network when SIVIO Institute convened 11 community foundations at various stages of development to facilitate conversations around collaboration and strengthening the movement. Ghana reached 23 incorporated CFs across ten regions, collectively raising funds through local resource mobilisation. Uganda reached a significant milestone with CivSource Africa's incubation programme supporting 18 organisations, three of which achieved formal legal registration as new emerging CFs.

2025: Bringing Together Community Foundations Support Organisations
While support organisations in Africa noted that CFs in their respective countries worked in silos, they had a critical reflection on themselves too. CFSOs came together to form an informal network to discuss the CF movement on the continent. They also joined other global organisations at the Infrastructure for the Future Convening in Romania in April 2025 to learn from the established regions of the globe. These are efforts to consolidate the work and better support the movement.

Patterns and Observations

Three developmental phases are evident. The Pioneer Phase (1997–2009) was characterised by individual country experiments with limited cross-learning, marked by both organic emergence (Kenya, Zimbabwe) and donor-driven establishment (South Africa). The Constitutional and Structural Phase (2010–2019) saw policy developments creating enabling environments. The Acceleration Phase (2021–present) has brought rapid multi-country expansion characterised by professional intermediary support, network formation, and increasing sophistication in endowment building and local resource mobilisation.

The role of intermediary organisations has become increasingly central to movement growth. Organisations such as CivSource Africa in Uganda, KCDF in Kenya, Mudzi Connect in Malawi, SIVIO Institute in Zimbabwe, and PureTrust Foundation LBG in Ghana have demonstrated that dedicated support infrastructure can significantly accelerate foundation establishment and strengthen institutional capacity.

Community Foundations Launch Pathways

Across the seven countries surveyed, community foundations have not emerged through a single model. The evidence reveals four structurally distinct launch pathways, each with different initiating actors, institutional logics, and trajectories of risk. Understanding these pathways matters because the conditions under which a foundation is born shape its relationship to community ownership, financial sustainability, and long-term viability. The South African experience, where nine of the initial ten community foundations collapsed, demonstrates most starkly that pathway choice is not merely procedural. It is determinative of whether an institution survives.

The four pathways are not mutually exclusive. A foundation incubated by a CFSO may have begun as a grassroots savings group; an organisation mapped and transitioned may go on to receive donor seeding for its endowment. What the pathways capture is the predominant logic and initiating actor at the moment of formation — the starting conditions that set an institution's structural character.

The first is **organic community emergence**, where foundations grow from existing solidarity and giving practices — savings groups, mutual aid circles, collective giving — before external support arrives. Zimbabwe's CFWRZ exemplifies this pathway, and the evidence suggests it produces the most durable institutions. The second is **CFSO-led incubation**, where an intermediary introduces the CF model to communities and provides technical, legal, and financial scaffolding. Ghana's 23 foundations and Uganda's 18 incubated organisations reflect this approach; it enables rapid growth but creates structural vulnerability if the CFSO withdraws. The third is the **mapping and transition pathway**, in which CFSOs identify existing organisations that are already functioning as community foundations in practice and support their formalisation. Most of Zimbabwe and several Ugandan foundations entered the movement this way. The fourth and most cautionary is **donor-seeded establishment**, where external funders design and capitalise a CF before genuine community ownership is secured. South Africa's experience is definitive here: most foundations established through this model collapsed, sustained as conventional NGOs without ever building local asset bases or endowments.

The central lesson across all four pathways is one of sequencing: donor capital can catalyse a community foundation, but it cannot constitute one. Where community investment precedes external funding, institutions survive.

Current Issues and Challenges

Many of these organisations started as community initiatives to address societal challenges like poverty, lack of access to education, health, and human rights. Community foundations across Africa face common issues and challenges, often of global significance, but which combine and manifest in unique ways locally. The following analysis draws on the survey responses of the nine CFSOs. Where percentages are cited, they reflect the proportion of the nine CFSO respondents who identified each issue.

Funding and Sustainability

Financial sustainability presents different challenges across the development spectrum. Some established and emerging CFs face donor and grant dependency, while others face the opposite challenge of having no access to donor funding at all. CFSOs describe this situation as a "perfect storm" (SGS Consulting): increasing community demand for services, pressure on resources due to economic conditions, and, in many countries, deterioration in the enabling environment for philanthropy and civil society.

The majority of respondents (77.8% — seven of nine CFSOs) indicated that individual donors constitute the largest percentage of supporters, though amounts per individual donor are often modest compared to official development aid sources. Main funding sources identified across African CFs include individual donors, community contributions, foundations and trusts, international agencies, corporate sponsors, and their own social enterprises.

Capacity Gaps

CFSO representatives identified the following critical capacity gaps requiring support infrastructure to address:

Capacity Area	Prevalence (n=8)	Impact on Movement
Fundraising	88.9% (8 of 9)	Limits revenue generation and diversification across all country contexts
Financial & Investment Expertise	77.8% (7 of 9)	Constrains endowment building and long-term financial management
Governance	66.7% (6 of 9)	Affects board composition, accountability, and strategic direction
Storytelling & Visibility	55.6% (5 of 9)	Reduces public profile, fundraising effectiveness, and donor confidence
Monitoring & Evaluation	33.3% (3 of 9)	Weakens the impact measurement and evidence base for advocacy

Regulatory Environment

In all seven countries, there are no laws that specifically govern or recognise community foundations as a distinct legal category. CFs are therefore registered under frameworks designed for broader categories of NGOs or civil society organisations, creating several practical difficulties: uncertainty about organisational status; lack of protection for endowments; difficulty securing certain categories of funding; and challenges differentiating CFs from traditional NGOs in the eyes of donors and government. In Zimbabwe, the new Private Voluntary Organisation (PVO) law, while providing a regulation pathway, contains provisions that may hinder public resource mobilisation.

Endowment Development

Kenya, Ghana, South Africa, Uganda, and Zimbabwe reported active endowment development, while Malawi and Zambia have not yet reached this stage. **Across all countries, the following challenges with endowment building were consistently identified:**

- Conceptual unfamiliarity: endowment and perpetuity are new concepts for most communities and many CF staff
- Limited disposable income: most communities can only contribute small amounts, making endowment growth slow

AGA KHAN FOUNDATION
CivSOURCE Where philanthropy and civil society meet
GHANA PHILANTHROPY FORUM
KCDF people, giving and working together
MUDZI CONNECT
Pure TRUST
SGS CONSULTING DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT
SIVIO INSTITUTE
ZAMBIAN GOVERNANCE FOUNDATION FOR CIVIL SOCIETY

- Trust deficit: communities require proof that funds will be safe and used appropriately
- Perception of slow returns: endowments do not generate quick results in contexts of immediate need
- Short-term donor expectations: most funders prioritise immediate impact over long-term institutional investment
- Legal gaps: absence of CF-specific legislation creates a perception of risk around endowment permanence
- Scale requirements: endowments need to reach a critical mass to generate meaningful returns for grant-making

The Community Foundations Support Ecosystem in Africa

The community foundations movement across Africa operates within a multi-layered support ecosystem comprising CFSOs, international donors and networks, national platforms, civil society organisations, and diverse local actors. International donors have been foundational in establishing the movement. The Ford Foundation provided critical seed funding and technical guidance that shaped KCDF's endowment-building model, while the Aga Khan Foundation served as KCDF's fiscal host. The Charles Stewart Mott Foundation has supported the CF movement most broadly, providing grants for CF incubation and research across multiple countries. Additional international support has come from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, TechSoup Global, and the Worldwide Initiatives for Grantmaker Support (WINGS).

National and regional networks have emerged as crucial infrastructure for collaboration and collective advocacy, including the Community Foundations Network Malawi, the Kenya Philanthropy Forum, the East African Philanthropy Network, the Community Foundations Network of Zimbabwe, and the Uganda Community Foundations Network.

Despite these contributions, significant gaps remain. South Africa's experience reveals that even with active intermediary support, CFs may fail if their leadership cannot effectively communicate value propositions to retain funding, if there is insufficient focus on local asset mobilisation, and if meaningful partnerships are not established. A notable structural concern is the geographic concentration of CFSOs in capital cities, while community foundations increasingly operate in rural areas — this also represents an opportunity for establishing CFs in capital cities and major economic hubs where financial resources are concentrated, enabling resource flows to rural areas.

Spotlight on CFSOs

Africa has nine identified CFSOs from seven countries: Aga Khan Foundation, KCDF, Mudzi Connect, SIVIO Institute, SGS Consulting, PureTrust Foundation LBG, Ghana Philanthropy Forum, CivSource Africa, and Zambian Governance Foundation (ZGF). They provide essential infrastructure for the movement's development.

Mudzi Connect in Malawi has led the formation of ten community foundations since 2023, combining awareness-raising, governance training, ongoing capacity strengthening, and matching grants. SGS Consulting has strengthened CF capacity through national dialogues, workshops, and regional learning exchanges. KCDF, established in 1997, represents one of Africa's most mature CFSOs, currently supporting 12 emerging community foundations across ten counties and introducing the endowment-building concept to East Africa. In Ghana, PureTrust Foundation LBG has provided technical guidance to establish 23 incorporated community foundations across 10 regions.

CivSource Africa in Uganda has played a central role through its incubation programme, offering emerging community foundations comprehensive support that includes leadership mentorship, masterclasses on resource mobilisation, strategy development, grantmaking and legal compliance, as well as providing seed grants. The CFSO facilitated the formal registration of three CFs. The organisation's convening spaces, including the Gathering of Givers and Decolonization Conversation Series, facilitate peer learning and connection. SIVIO Institute in Zimbabwe conducted mapping research that informed capacity-building design, facilitated the formation of the Zimbabwe national network, and collaborated with Mudzi Connect to support the formation of the Malawi national network. The Zambian Governance Foundation continues to explore CF adoption in Zambia by supporting community-based organisations aspiring to become community foundation initiative groups.

Country Portraits

The following country portraits are based on data and information provided by the respective CFSOs in November 2025. They primarily offer a qualitative description of the evolution and state of the field in each country. Unless otherwise specified, CF counts include organisations across the development continuum — from Community Foundation Initiative Groups and Emerging Community Foundations to Established Community Foundations. The report distinguishes these categories to avoid conflating aspiration with institutional maturity.

GHANA
CFSO: PureTrust Foundation LBG and Ghana Philanthropy Forum

CFs: 23
18 emerging CFs + 5 CF initiative groups

Context

Ghana represents one of Africa's most dynamic and rapidly growing community foundation movements. From a standing start in April 2021, the country has established 23 incorporated community foundations across 10 of its 16 regions, facilitated by the PureTrust Foundation LBG and the Ghana Philanthropy Forum, with support from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation. The country has 18 emerging CFs and five initiative groups.

The first community foundation, Mafi-Kpedzeglo Community Development Foundation, was established in the Volta Region in April 2021. A key success factor was the engagement of traditional authorities — chiefs and elders — from the outset, providing cultural grounding and institutional legitimacy. By 2025, the 23 community foundations had collectively raised 1.27 million Ghana Cedis (approximately US$117,700) through local resource mobilisation, serving 9,111 direct beneficiaries with an estimated 40,999 indirect beneficiaries.

CFs in Ghana are registered as Companies Limited by Guarantee through the Registrar-General's Department, followed by obtaining permits from district municipal authorities and licences from the Nonprofit Organisations Secretariat.

Thematic Areas, Funding and Challenges

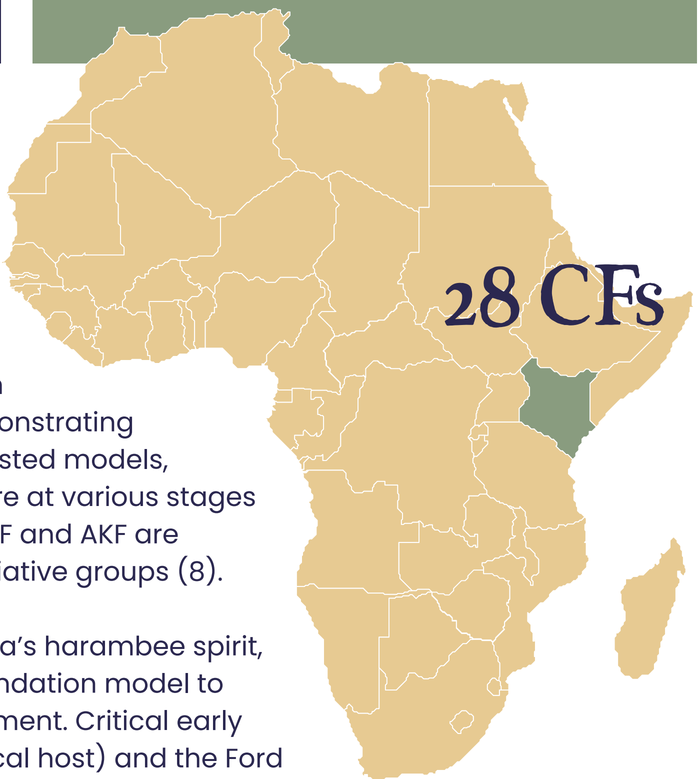
Primary thematic areas include health, education, water and sanitation, food and agriculture, cultural heritage, peace and security, community leadership, and humanitarian emergencies. The most significant operational challenge is the inability to hire and retain professional staff — typical staffing ranges from 5–10 people, with heavy reliance on volunteers. In terms of endowment building efforts, four CFs have opened bank accounts for endowment funds and are building assets through annual giving pledges. A CF Forum has been established and is working toward building a formal national network. District assemblies and national stakeholders increasingly recognise CFs as partners in local development.

Understanding Community Foundations

Locally rooted philanthropic institutions that are locally led, locally managed, and locally funded. They mobilise community resources, engage traditional authorities and citizens, and respond to community-identified development priorities. CFs embody Titritob (solidarity for community development), reflecting the spirit of communal labour and hometown unity in modern, accountable structures.

KENYA
CFSO: Kenya Community Development Foundation (KCDF) and Aga Khan Foundation

CFs: 28
Across all stages of maturity



Context

Kenya hosts East Africa's most established community foundations movement, pioneered by KCDF in 1997. Nearly three decades later, Kenya has 29 identified operating community foundations, including KCDF, which also operates as a CFSO. A total of 28 CFs are supported by both KCDF (12) and the Aga Khan Foundation (16), demonstrating a mature ecosystem with institutional memory, tested models, and growing national recognition. In Kenya, CFs are at various stages of development, and the identified groups by KCDF and AKF are Established CFs (8), Emerging CFs (13), and CF initiative groups (8).

KCDF, the first and oldest CF, was inspired by Kenya's harambee spirit, fuelling the founders to adapt the community foundation model to empower communities to lead their own development. Critical early support came from the Aga Khan Foundation (fiscal host) and the Ford Foundation (seed funding and endowment-building model). CFs are present in 10 counties across the country.

Key Milestones
1997: KCDF establishment with support from Aga Khan Foundation and Ford Foundation
2000s: Introduction of endowment-building concept, shifting focus from external aid to local resource mobilisation

2010: Adoption of Kenya's Constitution emphasising devolution and citizen participation, creating enabling environment
2010s: KCDF expansion of grant-making and capacity-building, inspiring similar initiatives
2024: Aga Khan Foundation supporting 2 CFs and 14 initiative groups across coastal counties of Mombasa, Kwale, Kilifi, and Lamu

Thematic Areas, Funding and Challenges

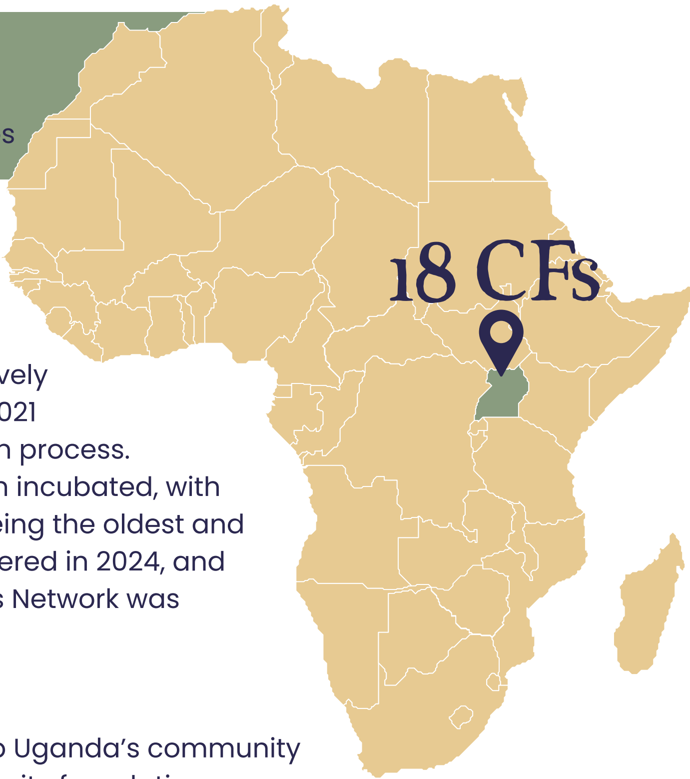
Endowments are more common in Kenyan CFs than in any other country covered by this study — some CFs hold unrestricted endowments and are building assets through local philanthropy, matched funding, and social enterprises. However, the concept of perpetuity remains challenging to communicate, and many organisations and donors remain hesitant about long-term investment. CFs leverage the Harambee spirit through collective action and resource pooling, including WhatsApp platforms for community fundraising. Key opportunities include forging new partnerships with the government, developing innovative investment strategies, and better highlighting successes through storytelling.

Understanding Community Foundations

Harambee-inspired institutions that engage communities in working together to improve their own communities, taking charge of their development agenda. They mobilise existing local resources and invest them to meet both current and future development needs, with an emphasis on sustainability and locally led development.

UGANDA
CFSO: CivSource Africa

CFs: 18
8 emerging CFs +
10 CF initiative groups



Context

While Uganda has a long tradition of community giving rooted in cultural and faith-based solidarity, the structured community foundation model is relatively new. The first identifiable emergence took shape in 2021 when CivSource Africa began a structured incubation process. Through this programme, 18 organisations have been incubated, with Women's Rights Initiative (WORI), founded in 2007, being the oldest and longest standing. Three new CFs were formally registered in 2024, and in 2025, Uganda's inaugural Community Foundations Network was established.

Key Milestones
2021: CivSource Africa Commissions research to map Uganda's community philanthropy landscape and identify existing community foundations.
2023: Launches a structured Incubation Program supporting 18 organisations across two cohorts to support leaders and strengthen emerging community foundations.
2024: Legal registration of three new foundations; Uganda Community Foundations Network established
2025: Community Foundations Network begins operating as a collective platform

Thematic Areas, Funding and Challenges

Primary thematic areas include health, education, water and sanitation, entrepreneurship, human rights, food and agriculture, and digital rights for women and children. CFs are in early stages of endowment development; the CF network is developing a joint endowment fund with collaborative governance. Main challenges include the absence of a legal framework recognising CFs, community mistrust in building endowments, and capacity gaps in fundraising, governance, and financial expertise. The single-CFSO dependency is a structural vulnerability for the movement's long-term resilience.

Understanding Community Foundations

Place-based and issue-based organisations that foster legitimacy, credibility, and accountability through rootedness in specific geographical areas. They are of the community and for the community, mobilising people, knowledge, and financial capital to strengthen communities through participatory decision-making and building sustainable community-owned assets.

SOUTH AFRICA
CFSO: SGS Consulting

CFs: 4
2 established CFs +
2 emerging CFs

Context

South Africa's community foundations movement presents a cautionary tale of early promise, significant challenges, and ongoing efforts toward renewal. The CF pilot programme began through the Southern African Grantmakers' Association (SAGA), launched in April 1995. SAGA initiated a community foundation pilot in October 1997, starting with Uthungulu Community Foundation in Richards Bay. The programme was funded by four foundations — the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, and the Carl and Emily Fuchs Foundation — with a combined budget of R1.2 million.

By 2001, the pilot had established ten community foundation initiatives. Of these, three were legally incorporated (Uthungulu, Greater Rustenburg, and Greater Stutterheim) and two had been publicly launched. However, only Uthungulu Community Foundation survived beyond the initial years — most collapsed because they were sustained as traditional NGOs without being sufficiently challenged to build endowments or mobilise local assets. A second generation of CFs emerged in the mid-2010s, but four subsequently closed due to inadequate fundraising capacity.

Currently, two established CFs operate — Uthungulu Community Foundation and the Initiative for Community Advancement (ICA), formerly South African Youth Leaders Network (SAYLN) — alongside two emerging CFs.

Key Milestones
1995: Southern African Grantmakers' Association (SAGA) launched
1997–2001: Pilot programme establishes ten CFs; only Uthungulu survives
Mid-2010s: Second generation of CFs emerges; four subsequently close
2024: National workshop analysing systemic reasons for CF struggles convened by SGS Consulting

Thematic Areas, Funding and Challenges

Critical endowment challenges include a significant trust deficit, absence of dedicated legislation protecting endowments, low confidence in CF investment capabilities, and limited innovation in alternative endowment models. The gap between Ubuntu philosophy in word and horizontal community agency in practice remains a central challenge. SGS Consulting recommends effective strategies, including Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD approach) training, small grants for local community projects, and stokvel development and support.

Understanding Community Foundations

Institutions designed to connect donors with doers, acting as local hubs that strengthen local philanthropy. They have an area-based approach connected with citizens and local stakeholders. Achieving financial sustainability and unlocking local assets for locally led development remains the central challenge.

MALAWI
CFSO: Mudzi Connect

CFs: 11
1 established CF +
10 emerging CFs

Context

Malawi's community foundations movement is among Africa's newest, emerging in 2023 through Mudzi Connect's facilitation. With 11 CFs operating across the country's three regions (5 in the south, 4 in the central region, 2 in the north), Malawi demonstrates rapid early growth supported by systematic technical assistance, training, and matching grant programmes.

The first community foundation, Makanjira Development Foundation, emerged in 2019 in response to a lack of local development and over-reliance on external solutions. Supported by the local community, businesspeople, and diaspora Malawians, Makanjira was the country's sole CF until Mudzi Connect began its incubation programme, which facilitated the formation of 10 new foundations.

Mudzi Connect's comprehensive support included: leading the formation and transition of organisations to CFs; facilitating registrations; raising philanthropy awareness nationally; providing training on CFs and philanthropy; providing ongoing capacity strengthening; and supporting CFs with matching grants.

Thematic Areas, Funding and Challenges

CFs are community-driven and responsive — listening to community needs without preset thematic preferences. Currently, no CF holds an endowment, as the movement is too new. High poverty levels — estimated at 71.3%–75.4% of the population living below international poverty lines — significantly constrain local giving capacity. Key risks include fatigue among CFs in generating local funding and potential threat from incoming INGOs with more resources who may undermine the local ownership approach. The Community Foundations Network of Malawi has been established with the support from SIVIO Institute to provide coordination and mutual support.

Understanding Community Foundations

Community-responsive organisations that listen to and prioritise community-identified needs. They mobilise local resources — time, talent, and money — to address development challenges, building on traditional Malawian values of sharing and uplifting each other.

ZIMBABWE
CFSO: SIVIO Institute

CFs: 8
3 established CFs +
5 emerging CFs

Context

Zimbabwe's community foundations movement dates back to 1998, with the founding of CFWRZ, which built its "Qogelela" Fund through contributions from 50,000 villagers across the Matabeleland North, Matabeleland South, and Midlands provinces. Synergos provided technical support. A decade later, Uluntu Community Foundation was registered in 2008 as the second recognised CF in the country, stemming from CFWRZ.

The movement's visibility remained limited until SIVIO Institute's 2022 mapping study identified existing organisations whose practices aligned with CF operations, leading to systematic capacity-building and the formation of a national network in 2024. Most Zimbabwean CFs were founded by local change-makers who addressed community challenges organically, without initially being aware of the formal CF concept. Currently, the country has three established CFs and five emerging CFs, which were community-based organisations transitioned into CFs.

Key Milestones
1998: Establishment of Community Foundation for the Western Region of Zimbabwe — first CF in the country
2008: Uluntu Community Foundation registered as the second CF, stemming from CFWRZ
2022: SIVIO Institute conducts mapping study identifying CFs at various formative stages
2022–2024: Design and delivery of capacity-building courses for identified organisations
2024: Formation of CF Network of Zimbabwe, providing convening platform and knowledge sharing

Thematic Areas, Funding and Challenges

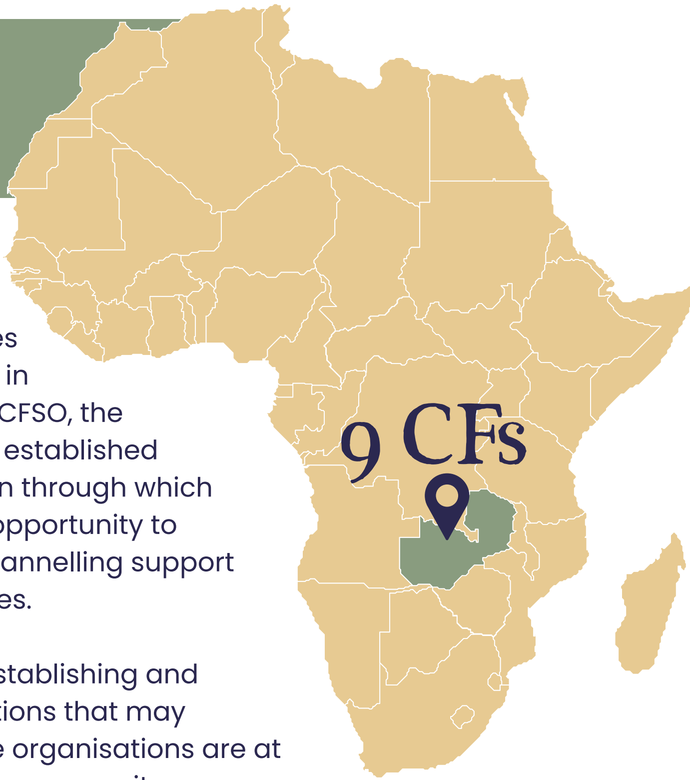
Primary thematic areas include health, education, and human rights. Only CFWRZ is actively building an endowment through its Qogelela fund, supported by the Global Fund for Community Foundations. Notable challenges include donor and grant dependency, the need to sustain daily operations over long-term endowment building, and the implications of the new PVO law. CFs are affiliated with the CF Network of Zimbabwe, NANGO, and the Alliance for Community Based Organisations (ACBOs).

Understanding Community Foundations

Community-rooted organisations that bring together resources and channel them toward addressing community challenges and promoting community development. They emerged organically from local change-makers grappling with societal challenges — embodying the principles of African philanthropy in practice before being recognised as community foundations in form.

ZAMBIA
CFSO: Zambian Governance Foundation (ZGF)

CFs: 9
All 9 are CF initiative groups



Context

The Zambian experience is distinct from other countries in this study: the country is still at an exploratory stage in testing the adoption of the CF concept. The operating CFSO, the Zambian Governance Foundation (ZGF) was originally established because cooperating partners needed an organisation through which civil society work could be funded. This catalysed the opportunity to explore the community foundations model through channelling support to community philanthropy organisations and initiatives.

The key turning point has been ZGF's ongoing role in establishing and eveloping the institutional capacities of nine organisations that may potentially transition to community foundations. These organisations are at a crossroads — deciding whether to remain as smaller community philanthropic institutions focused on local resource mobilisation, or to adopt the full CF model and expand operations. Geographic spread is concentrated in rural districts: Central Province (Chibombo 2, Chisamba 2) and Lusaka Province (Rufunsa 3, Luangwa 2).

Thematic Areas, Funding and Challenges

Primary thematic areas include health, education, water and sanitation, entrepreneurship, and food and agriculture. No organisations currently hold endowments, and there is limited knowledge of how to build them. A significant contextual issue is that many civil society organisations in Zambia have registered under the name "community foundation" without embodying CF principles or characteristics — creating confusion about what constitutes a genuine community foundation and risking dilution of the concept before it has been firmly established.

Understanding Community Foundations

Organisations at a critical juncture, deciding whether to remain small community philanthropic institutions focused on local resource mobilisation or to grow and adopt the full CF model. The movement exemplifies the identity challenge facing many early-stage African CF contexts — a challenge that requires clear conceptual education alongside practical incubation.

Recommendations for building and strengthening the CF movement in africa

The recommendations below are grounded in the specific findings of this landscape analysis. They are directed at four distinct audiences whose coordinated action is required to sustain and deepen the movement.

For Policymakers and Governments

- Develop dedicated legal frameworks recognising community foundations as a distinct category, with appropriate protections for endowments. The absence of such frameworks is a structural barrier to long-term CF sustainability in all seven countries.
- Create enabling tax policies that incentivise local philanthropy and donations to CFs, particularly for endowment contributions, to reduce dependency on international funding.
- Include CFs in national development planning frameworks and local government partnerships as legitimate actors in community-led development.
- Review legislation — particularly in Zimbabwe (PVO law) and Uganda — to ensure it does not inadvertently restrict community resource mobilisation.

For International Donors and Foundations

- Provide catalytic capital for endowment building with patient, long-term commitments — accepting that returns on endowment investment are generational, not annual.
- Design matching grant structures that incentivise local resource mobilisation, following the principle that community-contributed funds should attract, rather than be replaced by, external funding.
- Fund intermediary CFSO organisations with core institutional support, not only project grants. The evidence is clear: the movement grows fastest and most sustainably where dedicated CFSO infrastructure is well-resourced.
- Avoid directly endowing CFs with externally provided funds as the primary start-up mechanism. South Africa's experience demonstrates that CFs founded this way are structurally vulnerable to collapse.
- Enable regional learning exchanges and peer networks. Fund exposure visits to well-established CFs in the global north so that CF initiatives can understand the aspirational journey and intention of their formation.
- Adopt flexible funding allowing both programmatic work and institutional strengthening.

For Community Foundation Support Organisations

- Develop standardised but contextually adapted capacity-building curricula, particularly addressing consistently identified gaps in fundraising, governance, financial management, and storytelling.
- As CFSOs help develop the movement, it is critical to prioritise institutional quality over quantity. Focus should be on strengthening trusted, well-governed, and locally legitimate institutions than increasing numbers. Actively build national CF networks and peer learning platforms to reduce the structural vulnerability of single-CFSO dependency.
- Invest in ecosystem mapping to amplify the role of other actors in building the CF movement. Infrastructure organisations, funders, and knowledge actors are critical in enabling local growth, and if intermediaries are central to the movement's expansion, the ecosystem around them must be encouraged to also play a role.
- Create shared service platforms for back-office functions (accounting, legal, HR) to allow CFs to focus resources on community-facing work.
- Collectively advocate for enabling legal and policy frameworks, drawing on the comparative evidence this report provides to make the case across multiple country contexts simultaneously.
- Commission and publish rigorous impact data on CF effectiveness, both to support advocacy and to build the evidence base for a field that currently lacks systematic outcome measurement.
- Explore establishing Community Foundations in capital cities and major economic hubs, where financial resources are concentrated, enabling resource flows to support development in rural areas.

For Community Foundations

- Prioritise building community trust through transparent reporting, accessible governance, and demonstrated impact — particularly before asking communities to commit funds to endowments.
- Invest in fundraising capacity and diversified revenue streams early, including social enterprise models that can generate income independently of donor cycles.
- Develop clear theories of change and value propositions that articulate what a community foundation offers that a conventional NGO does not.
- Engage actively in national and regional CF networks, contributing institutional learning and benefiting from peer support and collective advocacy.
- Balance immediate community needs with long-term sustainability investments.
- Strengthen board governance and strategic oversight to ensure accountability and strategic direction.

Conclusion

The community foundations movement in Africa represents a powerful convergence of indigenous philanthropy traditions and modern institutional forms. These organisations demonstrate that sustainable development can emerge from within communities — provided that the institutional conditions for it are carefully cultivated.

The movement has achieved remarkable growth in recent years, with approximately 102 organisations across seven countries identified as meeting or progressing toward Community Foundation criteria, spread across three tiers of institutional development: Established, Emerging, and Community Foundation Initiative Groups. Countries like Ghana and Uganda demonstrate that rapid, systematic growth is achievable with the right combination of technical assistance, seed funding, and community readiness. The establishment of national networks in Zimbabwe, Uganda, and Malawi signals a maturing movement that is increasingly thinking collectively about its future.

However, significant structural challenges remain. The absence of enabling legal frameworks, persistent donor dependency, critical capacity gaps — particularly in fundraising, governance, and endowment management — and the risk of CFSO dependency all threaten long-term viability. South Africa's experience of two generational failures offers the continent's most thoroughly documented cautionary case, and its lessons should be taken seriously: growth without genuine community ownership and financial sustainability creates fragile institutions, not lasting ones.

Three strategic priorities emerge from this analysis. First, building enabling ecosystems: appropriate legal frameworks, supportive tax policies, and multi-stakeholder partnerships that draw government and the private sector into the movement. **Second, systematic capacity investment:** sustained, long-term support for CFSO infrastructure and CF capacity building across the five most critical areas — fundraising, governance, endowment management, storytelling, and monitoring and evaluation. **Third, sustainable funding architectures:** developing hybrid models that balance external catalytic support with growing local resource mobilisation, treating community-contributed funds as a foundation rather than a supplement.

Growing recognition of locally led development, increased interest in community philanthropy, emergence of regional learning networks, potential for innovative funding models, and strong alignment with the African Union Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals create favourable conditions for continued growth. With appropriate support and strategic investment, the community foundations movement has the potential to transform how development is funded and led across the continent — building permanent institutions capable of serving communities across generations.

Annexures

Annexure 1: Chronology of First Community Foundation Establishment by Country

Country	First Community Foundation Established	Year
Kenya	Kenya Community Development Foundation	1997
Zimbabwe	Community Foundation of the Western Region of Zimbabwe	1998
South Africa	Uthungulu Community Foundation	1999
Uganda	Women's Rights Initiative (WORI)	2007
Malawi	Makanjira Development Foundation	2019
Ghana	Mafi-Kpedzeglo Community Foundation	2021
Zambia	Exploring the model — no CF formally identified	—

Annexure 2: Additional CF Movement Development Events (2021–2025)

2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
CivSource Africa begins systematic CF incubation program in Uganda	SIVIO Institute maps CFs in Zimbabwe. Ghana expands to Central, Northern, Ashanti and Eastern regions	Mudzi Connect facilitates formation of 10 new CFs across 8 districts in Malawi	CF Network of Zimbabwe established. Ghana reaches 23 incorporated CFs. Uganda registers 3 new foundations. Africa CFSO group formed	Uganda and Malawi Community Foundations Networks established. Kenya identifies 27 operating CFs. Africa CFSO group attends Infrastructure for Future Convening, Romania

Annexure 3: Active CFSOs in Africa

CFSO	Country	Key Functions	CFs Supported
KCDF	Kenya	Capacity building, grant-making, endowment-building model, peer learning	27 CFs
Aga Khan Foundation	Kenya	Incubation, training, matching funds, mentorship for coastal counties	
CivSource Africa	Uganda	Mapping, incubation, legal compliance, convening, leadership development	18 CFs
SIVIO Institute	Zimbabwe	Mapping, capacity building, network formation, fundraising platform	8 CFs
SGS Consulting	South Africa	National dialogues, capacity strengthening, advocacy	4 CFs

Mudzi Connect	Malawi	Formation, training, matching grants, philanthropy awareness	11 CFs
PureTrust Foundation LBG	Ghana	Technical guidance, challenge grants, CF model introduction	23 CFs
Ghana Philanthropy Forum	Ghana	National platform, community mobilisation, awareness campaigns	
Zambian Governance Foundation	Zambia	Convening, information sharing, capacity development	9 initiative groups

Annexure 4: Key Definitions

Community Foundation (CF)

A locally rooted, not-for-profit, public philanthropy institution that pools charitable contributions into a shared endowment, is governed by a broadly representative local board, and uses its resources to make grants and support community development in a defined geographical area, with a view to long-term sustainability and local ownership.

Community Foundation Support Organisation (CFSO)

An intermediary organisation that seeds, nurtures, and strengthens community foundations through technical assistance, capacity building, convening, research, and advocacy. CFSOs may themselves be established CFs (e.g., KCDF), specialist consulting organisations (e.g., SGS Consulting), or purpose-built intermediaries (e.g., Mudzi Connect, CivSource Africa).

Community Philanthropy (CP)

The practice of giving and resource mobilisation rooted in local agency and indigenous traditions. Community philanthropy is the broader concept that drives burial societies, hometown associations, village savings groups, and community-based organisations. All community foundations practise community philanthropy, but not all community philanthropy organisations are community foundations.

Endowment

A permanently invested fund whose capital is preserved in perpetuity, with only the investment returns — interest or dividends — used for grant-making or operations. Endowment building is considered a defining characteristic of mature community foundations, as it enables financial independence from annual fundraising cycles.

Annexure 5: Community Foundations in Seven African Countries

1. GHANA

No.	Community Foundation Name	Status	Region/Province	District
1	Accra Community Foundation	Emerging	Greater Accra Region	Accra Metropolitan
2	Anloga Community Foundation	Emerging	Volta Region	Anloga District
3	Anuman Development Foundation	Emerging	Bono Region	Sunyani Municipal
4	Asanteman Community Foundation	Emerging	Ashanti Region	Kumasi Metropolitan
5	Bole District Community Foundation	Emerging	Savannah Region	Bole District
6	Effutu Community Development Foundation	Emerging	Central Region	Effutu Municipality
7	Jeb Foundation	Initiative Groups	Ashanti Region	Kumasi Metropolitan
8	Kpandai District Community Foundation	Emerging	Northern Region	Kpandai District
9	Kumasi Community Foundation	Initiative Groups	Ashanti Region	Kumasi Metropolitan
10	Kwabre South Community Foundation	Initiative Groups	Ashanti Region	Kwabre East District
11	Mafi Kpedzeglo Community Foundation	Emerging	Volta Region	Central Tongu District
12	Obohen Community Development Trust Foundation	Emerging	Bono Region	Sunyani Municipality
13	Offinso Community Initiative Foundation	Emerging	Ashanti Region	Offinso Municipal
14	Saboba Community Foundation	Emerging	Northern Region	Saboba District
15	Sogakope Community Foundation	Emerging	Volta Region	South Tongu District
16	Sunyani West Community Foundation	Emerging	Bono Region	Sunyani Municipal
17	Takla Community Foundation	Emerging	Northern Region	Kpandai District
18	Tamale Community Foundation	Emerging	Northern Region	Tamale Metropolitan
19	Tamale Development Trust	Emerging	Northern Region	Tamale Metropolitan
20	Volta Muslim Community Foundation	Emerging	Volta Region	North Tongu District
21	Wa Community Foundation	Initiative Groups	Upper West Region	Wa District
22	West Mamprusi Community Foundation	Initiative Groups	North East Region	West Mamprusi District
23	Wulensi Community Foundation	Emerging	Northern Region	Nanumba North District

2. KENYA

No.	Community Foundation Name	Status	Region/Province	District
1	Kitui Development Centre	Established	Eastern Region	Kitui County
2	Kilimani Project Foundation	Emerging	Nairobi Region	Nairobi County
3	Nguzo Africa Development Foundation	Established	Rift Valley Region	Narok County
4	Nkoilale Community Development Foundation	Established	Rift Valley Region	Narok County
5	South Imenti Sustainable Development and Education Fund (SISDEF)	Emerging	Eastern Region	Meru County
6	Ndithini Community Development Association	Established	Eastern Region	Machakos County
7	Genesis Community Development Association	Emerging	Eastern Region	Kitui County
8	Community Socio-Environment Organisation (COSEO)	Established	Rift Valley Region	Baringo County
9	Action for Child Development Trust	Established	Western Region	Kakamega County
10	Nyalenda Young Tusk CBO	Emerging	Nyanza Region	Kisumu County
11	Dhamira Moja Group	Established	Western Region	Busia County
12	Kileleshwa Ward Neighbourhood Association	Initiative Group	Nairobi Region	Nairobi County
13	Ribe Community Initiative	Initiative Group	Coast Region	Kilifi County
14	Kambe Community Initiative	Initiative Group	Coast Region	Kilifi County
15	Kaloleni Community Initiative	Initiative Group	Coast Region	Kilifi County
16	Kayafungo Community Initiative	Initiative Group	Coast Region	Kilifi County
17	Amidzi for Empowerment	Emerging CF	Coast Region	Mombasa County
18	Jomvu Self Help Group	Emerging CF	Coast Region	Mombasa County
19	Changamwe	Emerging CF	Coast Region	Mombasa County
20	RICO Community Initiative	Initiative Group	Coast Region	Mombasa County
21	Nyali Community Initiative	Initiative Group	Coast Region	Mombasa County
22	Rome ra Guro	Emerging CF	Coast Region	Kwale County
23	Chando cha Kisiwani	Emerging CF	Coast Region	Kwale County
24	Kudzecha Kiwegu	Emerging CF	Coast Region	Kwale County
25	Kasemeni/Mazeras Community Initiative	Initiative Group	Coast Region	Kwale County
26	Lamu Anchor of Hope	Emerging CF	Coast Region	Lamu County
27	Lamu East Community Development Initiative	Emerging CF	Coast Region	Lamu County
28	Lamu Central Initiative	Initiative Group		Lamu County

3. MALAWI

No.	Community Foundation Name	Status	Region/Province	District
1	Transformation of Community Lives in Malawi (Trocolma)	Emerging	Central Region	Salima District
2	Tikwenda Community Foundation	Emerging	Central Region	Kasungu District
3	Ndakwera Community Foundation	Emerging	Southern Region	Chikwawa District
4	Children of Hope (COHO)	Emerging	Southern Region	Blantyre District
5	Mulepa Community Foundation	Emerging	Northern Region	Mzimba District
6	Lusolanga Foundation	Emerging	Central Region	Salima District
7	Community Action for Development (CAFORD)	Emerging	Southern Region	Mulanje District
8	Grassroots Action Support Organisation (GASO)	Emerging	Central Region	Lilongwe District
9	Rise for Phoka	Emerging	Northern Region	Rumphi District
10	Chamanza	Emerging	Central Region	Dowa District
11	Makanjira Community Foundation	Established	Southern Region	Mangochi District

4. SOUTH AFRICA

No.	Community Foundation Name	Status	Region/Province	District / Metropolitan Area
1	The Valley Trust (TVT)	Emerging	KwaZulu-Natal	eThekwini / uMgungundlovu District Municipality
2	Tshwane Leadership Foundation (TLF)	Emerging	Gauteng	City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality
3	uThungulu Community Foundation	Established	KwaZulu-Natal	King Cetshwayo District Municipality
4	Initiative for Community Advancement (ICA)	Established	Western Cape	West Coast District Municipality

5. UGANDA

No.	Community Foundation Name	Status	Region/Province	District
1	Dwona Initiative	Emerging	Central Region	Kayunga District
2	Community Catalyst Uganda	Emerging	West Nile Region	Pakwach District
3	Pacem Havens Foundation	Initiative Group	Central Region	Mukono District
4	Women Rights Initiative (WORI)	Emerging	Eastern Region	Jinja District
5	Humura Women Development Initiative	Initiative Group	Western Region	Kitagwenda District
6	Future Generations Foundation	Initiative Group	Central Region	Kampala District
7	Ethur Community Foundation	Emerging	Karamoja Region	Abim District
8	Puah Community Foundation	Emerging	Eastern Region	Ngora District
9	Feeble Care Uganda	Initiative Group	Western Region	Hoima District
10	Galui Foundation	Initiative Group	Central Region	Kampala District

11	Touched Minds Charity Initiative	Initiative Group	Central Region	Wakiso District
12	Green Reach Uganda Foundation	Emerging	Central Region	Wakiso District
13	Watoto Wasoka	Emerging	Central Region	Kampala District
14	Femtech Law Initiative	Initiative Group	Central Region	Kampala District
15	Atacama Consulting Foundation	Initiative Group	Central Region	Kampala District
16	Success Africa Foundation	Emerging	Western Region	Mbarara District
17	Community Based Minds	Initiative Group	Central Region	Mukono District
18	Engender Youth Mentorship	Initiative Group	Central Region	Wakiso District

6. ZAMBIA

No.	Community Foundation Name	Status	Region/Province	District
1	Baka Community Foundation	Initiative Groups	Central Province	Chibombo District
2	Kankole Community Foundation	Initiative Groups	Central Province	Chibombo District
3	Kamwemishi Community Foundation	Initiative Groups	Central Province	Chisamba District
4	Nyankanga Community Foundation	Initiative Groups	Central Province	Chisamba District
5	Chansefu Community Foundation	Initiative Groups	Lusaka Province	Luangwa District
6	Kaluluzi Community Foundation	Initiative Groups	Lusaka Province	Luangwa District
7	Nyamalota Community Foundation	Initiative Groups	Lusaka Province	Rufunsa District
8	Chinzete Community Foundation	Initiative Groups	Lusaka Province	Rufunsa District
9	Chemu Community Foundation	Initiative Groups	Lusaka Province	Rufunsa District

7. ZIMBABWE

No.	Community Foundation Name	Status	Region/Province	District
1	Chiedza Community Welfare Trust	Established	Manicaland Province	Mutasa District
2	Community Foundation for the Western Region of Zimbabwe	Established	Matabeleland North/ South & Midlands	Bulilima & Mangwe Districts
3	Hope Tariro Trust	Emerging	Harare Province	Harare Metropolitan
4	Manica Youth Assembly (MAYA)	Emerging	Manicaland Province	Mutare District
5	Mutasa Youth Forum and Community Empowerment Trust	Emerging	Manicaland Province	Mutasa District
6	Nyahunure Community Trust	Emerging	Mashonaland East Province	Mutoko District
7	Patsaka Trust	Emerging	Mashonaland Central Province	Bindura District
8	Uluntu Community Foundation	Established	Matabeleland North/ South	Gwanda / Bulilima Districts

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